



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,118	09/30/2003	Mamdouh M. Salama	18326/04901	6052

50639 7590 08/11/2005

HITCHCOCK EVERT LLP  
P.O. BOX 131709  
DALLAS, TX 75313-1709

EXAMINER
----------

PATTERSON, MARC A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1772

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/675,118

Applicant(s)

SALAMA, MAMDOUH M.

Examiner

Marc A. Patterson

Art Unit

1772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/6/04, 3/9/04, 3/11/04, 12/17/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities: The phrase meaning of the phrase 'between at least one of said metal liner and at least one of said metal composite interfaces' is unclear because it is unclear how a ring could fit between a liner and interfaces. For purposes of examination, the phrase will be interpreted to mean any riser which comprises a transition ring. Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 – 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Salama et al (Offshore Technology Conference, May 1999).

With regard to Claims 1 – 2, Salama et al disclose a riser (page 2, column 2) that is collapse resistant (comprising titanium; page 3, column 1) comprising a metal liner (titanium liner; page 4, column 1), a reinforcing layer adjacent the outside of the liner (innermost layer of a structural composite overlayer comprising E – glass reinforcing fiber; page 4, column 2), a shear ply over the reinforcing layer (at the interface between the liner and structural overwrap) and an outer main structural layer of composite material over the shear ply layer (structural component overwrap; page 4, column 2).

With regard to Claim 3, Salama et al discloses a performance enhancement layer on the inside of the liner (elastomeric liner to insure leak tight conditions, therefore enhancing performance of the riser; page 4, column 2).

With regard to Claim 4, Salama et al disclose a fluid impermeable layer over the main outer layer over the outer main layer of composite material (external liner of HNBR; page 5, column 1).

With regard to Claim 5, Salama et al disclose a scuff absorbing layer over the fluid impermeable layer (page 5, column 1).

With regard to Claim 6, the liner disclosed by Salama et al comprises titanium (page 4, column 2).

With regard to Claims 7 – 8, the liner disclosed by Salama et al is adjacent to a layer, as discussed above, and the liner therefore comprises an engaging surface on its outer surface.

With regard to Claim 9, the scuff absorbing layer disclosed by Salama et al is of composite material (layer is glass overwrap; page 5, column 1).

With regard to Claims 10 – 17, the metal liner disclosed by Salama et al has a first end and a second end, and metal composite interfaces are positioned adjacent the first and second ends of the liner (a metal composite interface is the region where the structural composite overwrap overlaps the titanium pipe end section, therefore the ends of the titanium liner; page 4, column 2).

With regard to Claim 18, the riser disclosed by Salama et al comprises a transition as shown in Figure 3.

With regard to Claims 19 – 21, the shear ply disclosed by Salama et al has a generally Y – shaped portion that is received in grooves of the metal composite interface as shown in Figure 3, therefore a sealing section.

With regard to Claims 22 – 26, the metal composite interface disclosed by Salama et al has trap locks positioned at each end of the metal liner and engaging the layer of composite material (load transfer between the composite overwrap and titanium flange sections is accomplished through a carefully designed traplock metal to composite interface; page 1, column 1).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc A Patterson whose telephone number is 571-272-1497.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1772

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Marc Patterson 2/2/05*

Marc A. Patterson, PhD.

Examiner

Art Unit 1772